



Worshiping Gurus' (preceptor) is a tradition in Bharateeya Samskruti that is in vogue since time immemorial and Hindu philosophy confers paramount importance to spiritual Gurus. They are regarded as a link between an individual and immortal; a transparent personification of divine grace and compassion.

If we absolutely surrender to a true Guru with true devotion without any reservation, he will save us from all sorrow and suffering > shows the path to salvation.

Divine gifted Guru Sarvabhouma Sri Raghavendra Swamy of Mantralayam;

one of the most acclaimed Saints,

a true and pious Guru,

an embodiment of compassion;

is in the forefront of such divine and noble souls who have taken birth on this earth in the recent Indian history.

Sri Guru Raayaru has performed several miracles when he was alive and also after entering the Brundavana.

Even today, devotees continue to experience His miracles and divine grace.

A well-wisher of society, Sri Raghavendra Swamy is a great divine and gifted soul destined to provide solace and succor to millions of needy people. He is...

➤ A helping hand to the needy;

- a remedy to the suffering;
- a consolation to the grieved;
- a healer to the sick;
- Bhava Roga Vaidya (doctor of humanity)
- Sri Raayaru is Mr. Dependable to the common man.

While Guru Sri Raaghavendra Swamy is worthy to be adored on a daily basis; three dates are most important in His calendar. They are...

**Phalguna sukla Sapthami** celebrated as Sri Raghavendra Theerthara Vardhantotsava (Jayanthi), the day Kaamadhenu, Kalpavruksha, Parimalaacharya, Guru Saarbabhuma, Poojyaaya, Sri Raghavendra swamy of Mantralayam was born.

**Phalguna Sukla Dwiteeya** the day, the sacred name, the powerful Taaraka manthra **Raaghavendra** took birth and Sri Raayaru took sanyasa Deeksha and ascended the throne of Vedanta Saamraajya founded by Saint Sri Madhvaachaarya. This day is celebrated as Sri Guru Saarbabhumaara Pattabhisheka Dinotsava.

**Sraavana Bahula Dwiteeya** the sacred day Sri Raghavendra Swamy the great saint of Madhva philosophy; Avathaara Purusha (Pahlada-Baahlika-Vyaasa Raayaru) Daivaamsha Sambhoota, made Sajeeva Brundavana Pravesa in the year 1671 AD that is celebrated as Sri Raayara Aaraadhana.

**Vardhantotsava** (Rayaru Janmadinotsava)

*The term Vardhanti is derived from the element Vrdh meaning to grow (Vrddhi); Vardhamana that we generally come across, denotes to prosper, to grow, progressing; Vardhana means extension; Therefore, it is appropriate to use term Vardhanti for Janmadinotsava.*

**Shankukarna** (Prahlada-Bahleeka-VyasaRaja...) started last leg of his journey on Earth by taking his fourth birth as Venkatanathacharya (Raghavendra Poorvashrama naama) specially to worship Sri MoolaRaama Devaru as per his soul desire in his Moolaroopa.

### **Shankukarna > Prahlada > Raghavendra**

ಶ್ರೀ ನೃಸಿಂಹ ಪುರಾಣದ ವಚನದಂತೆ...

ಶಂಖಕರ್ಣಾಖ್ಯ ದೇವಸ್ತು ಬ್ರಹ್ಮ ಶಾಪಾಶ್ಚ ಭೂತಲೇ ।

ಪ್ರಹಲಾದ ಇತಿ ವಿಖ್ಯಾತೋ ಭೂಭಾರ ಕ್ಷಪಣೋ ರತಃ ॥

ಸ ಏವ ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಾಖ್ಯ ಯತಿ ರೂಪೇಣ ಸರ್ವದಾ ।

ಕಲೌಯುಗೋ ರಾಮಸೇವಾಂ ಕುರ್ವನ್ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯೇ ಭವೇತ್ ॥

ಶ್ರೀ ನೃಸಿಂಹ ಪುರಾಣದ ವಚನದಂತೆ...

ಶಂಖಕರ್ಣಾಖ್ಯ ದೇವಸ್ತು ಬ್ರಹ್ಮ ಶಾಪಾಶ್ಚ ಭೂತಲೇ ।

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(above sloka from Sri Narasimha Purana testifies Sri GuruRaayaru's lineage from Shankukarna > Prahlada)

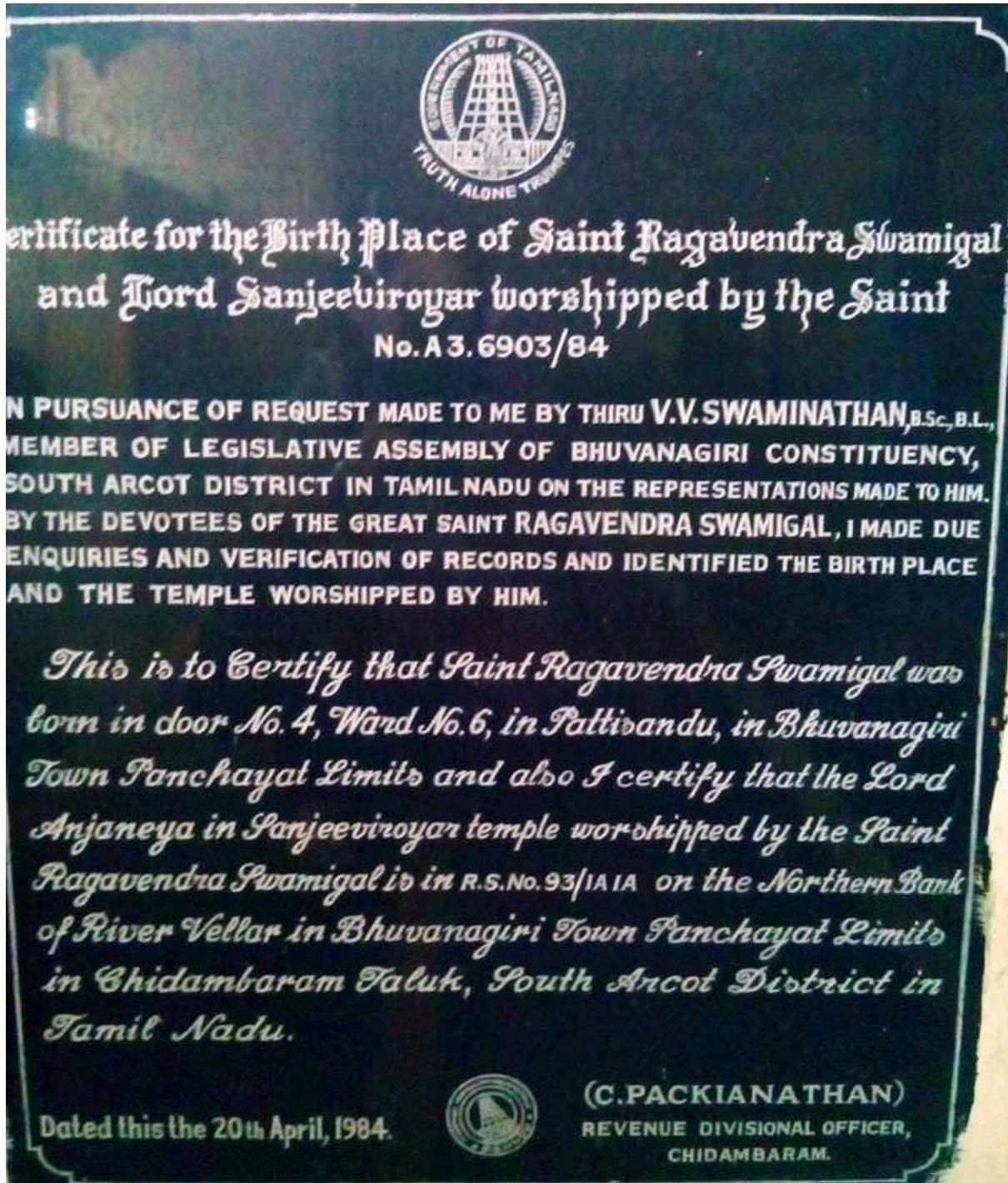


Raghavendra born as a gifted son of Thimmana Bhatta & Gopikamba in the family (manetana) of Powsthika Vamsa, belonging to Goutama Gothra with the Grace of Lord Sri Venkateswara was aptly named as Venkatanatha.

Popularly and affectionately called as Raayaru, Sri Raghavendra Swamy was born in the lunar year, Manmathanaama Samvatsara, Phalguna Sukla Saptami, GuruVaasara, in the constellation of Mrigasira nakshatra, in the calendar year 1595 at Bhuvanagiri near Chidambaram (Tamil Nadu)



ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಸ್ವಾಮಿಗಳು ಹುಟ್ಟಿದ ಸ್ಥಳ  
**The Birth place of Sree Raghavendra Svamiji**

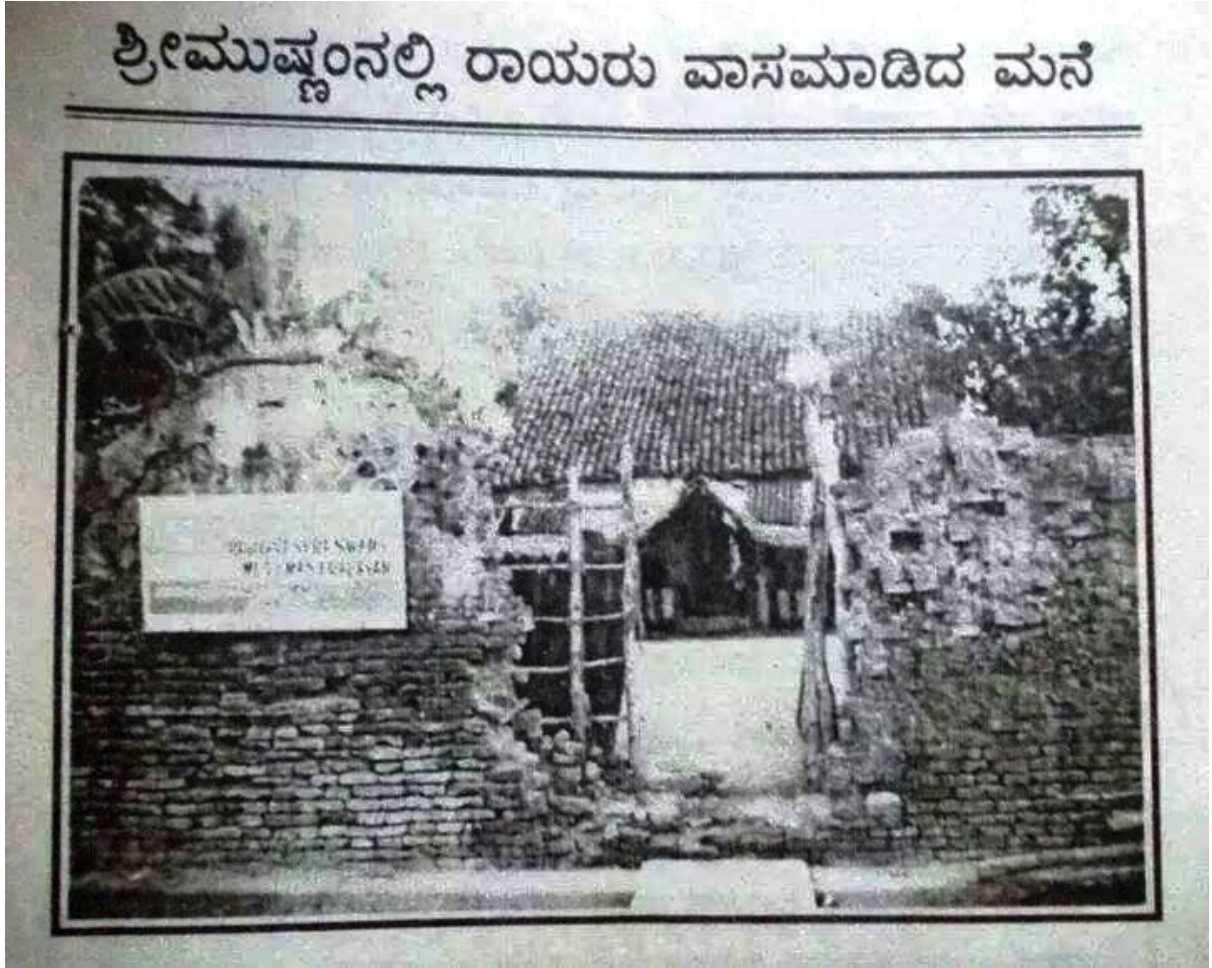


Sri Raayaru Brundavana has come up at the place where He was born in Bhuvanagiri.





Sri GuruRaayaru stayed at SriMushnam the BhuVaraha kshethra and the house where Sri Raayaru stayed a Brundavana has come up. It is said that it is (Ekashila Brundavana) has been carved out from the remains of Moola Brindavana at Mantralayam.





Just to give a brief estimate of his life history here is a summary of his Profile [RaAyArU – A cursory glance](#)

**Moola Roopa: Shankukarna**

Avathara:

- Prahlada (Krita Yuga)
- Baahlika (Dwapara Yuga)
- Vyasaraaja/VyasaRayaru (Kaliyuga)

Lineage in Current birth:

Manetana: Powsthika Vamsada "Beegamudre"

Gothra: Gautama;

Great Grand Father: Sri Krishna Bhatta

Grand Father: Sri Kanakachala Bhatta

Father: Thimmana Bhatta

Mother: Gopikamba

Sister: Venkatamba

Brother: Gururajacharya

Birth: 1595 – Manmatha Nama Samvatsara

Phalguna Sukla Sapthami - Guruvara (Thursday)

Birth Star: Mrugasira;

Birth Place: Bhuvanagiri (near Chidambaram in T.N)

Poorvasrama Nama: Venkatanatha

Aksharabhyasa: 1597-1598 (Hevalambi)

First Teacher: Lakshminarasimhaacharya(B' in-law)

Upanayana: 1602 (Subhakruthu)

Education: At Kumbhakonam

Vidya Guru: Sri Sudheendra Theertharu

Marriage: 1614 (AnandaNama Samvatsara)

Wife: Saraswathi Bai;

Son: Sri Lakshminarayanacharya;

Direction for Sanyasa Sweekaara:

Goddess Saraswathi Devi (Swapna)

Sanyasa Sweekara: 1621

(Durmathi–Phalguna–Suddha Bidigi)

Aasrama Nama: **Sri Raghavendra Theertha**

Guru Lineage:

- Sri Surendra Theertharu;
- Sri Vijayendra Theertharu;
- Sri Sudheendra Theertharu;

Aasrama Sishya: Sri Yogindratheeratharu;

Favourite Musical Instrument: Veena;

Titles of Sri Raghavendra:

- Parimalaachaarya;
- Mahabhashya Venkatanathaacharya;
- Veena Venkanna;

Longevity of Sri Raghavendra:

- 76 years - Physically present on Earth
- 100 years - Physically present inside the Brindavana
- 300 years - Tenure in Brindavana (without physical form)

- 700 years - Influence (Mahima) of Rayaru and his literary works (visesha sannidhana)

Brundavana Pravesa:

[Virodhi Nama Samvatsara - Sravana Bahula Bidigi  
Friday, 11th August, 1671]

Unique Brundavanas' of Sri RaAghavendra Swamy

- Moola Brundavana at Mantralayam;
- Brundavana at Bhikshalaya (Bichhali);
- Brundavana at Vadavar (Vadavanthangarai);
- Moorthi form at Nanjangudu;

Mantralaya GramaDevata: Maanchalamma Devi

ThapoSthala: Panchamukhi (Ganadhala near  
Mantralayam)

Literary contribution:

Sri RaAyar was an extraordinarily brilliant writer credited to have authored more than forty divine works majority of which are commentaries (vyakhyaana) on the works of Sri Madhvacharya, Sri Jayatheertharu and Sri VyasaRajaru, Vedas and Upanishads.

Sri GuruRaayar wrote Nyayasudha Parimala one of the most popular commentaries on Nyayasudha of Sri Jayateertharu. It is because of which Sri RaAyar is called > Parimalacharya;

His independent works include famously...

- prātaḥ saṁkalpa gadyam
- sarvasamarpaṇagadyam
- daśāvatāra stuti
- BhattaSangraha
- srI rAmachAritramaMjari
- Śrī kṛṣṇacāritramam̐jarī
- Maruthi (Hanuma) Stotra (Suladi)
- eKasloki sUndAraKaNdA
- nadī tārataṁya stotram
- śrī rājagopāla stuti

and his music compositions famously...

Indu Yenage Govinda... in Kannada and  
Maruta Ninnaya Mahime, also in Kannada which is a  
Suladi.

Composer of Sri Raghavendra Sthothra:

Sri Appannaacharya (Bichhali)

Location of Moola Brindavana: Mantralayam (Manchali)  
[Kurnool Dt. (A.P) on the banks of river Tungabhadra]

Popular slokas of Sri Raghavendra Swamy:

पूज्याय राघवेन्द्राय सत्यधर्मरताय च।

भजतां कल्पवृक्षाय नमतां कामधेनवे॥

मूकोपि यत्प्रसादेन मुकुंद शयनायते

राजराजायते रिक्तो राघवेन्द्रं तमाश्रये ॥

ದುವಾಧಿಧ್ವಾಂತರವಯೇ ವೈಷ್ಣವೇಂದೀವರೇಂದವೇ |

ಶ್ರೀರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಗುರವೇ ನಮೋಽತ್ಯಂತದಯಾಲವೇ ||

ಪೂಜ್ಯಾಯ ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಾಯ ಸತ್ಯಧರ್ಮರತಾಯ ಚ |

ಭಜತಾಂ ಕಲ್ಪವೃಕ್ಷಾಯ ನಮತಾಂ ಕಾಮಧೇನವೇ ||

ದುವಾಧಿ ಧ್ವಾಂತರವಯೇ ವೈಷ್ಣವೇಂದೀವರೇಂದವೇ

ಶ್ರೀರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಗುರವೇ ನಮೋಽತ್ಯಂತದಯಾಳವೇ ||

ಮೂಕೋಪಿ ಯತ್ಪ್ರಸಾದೇನ ಮುಕುಂದ ಶಯನಾಯತೇ

ರಾಜರಾಜಾಯತೇ ರಿಕ್ತೋ ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಂ ತಮಾಶ್ರಯೇ ||

Raghavendra Astakshari: Om! Sri Raaghavendraaya!

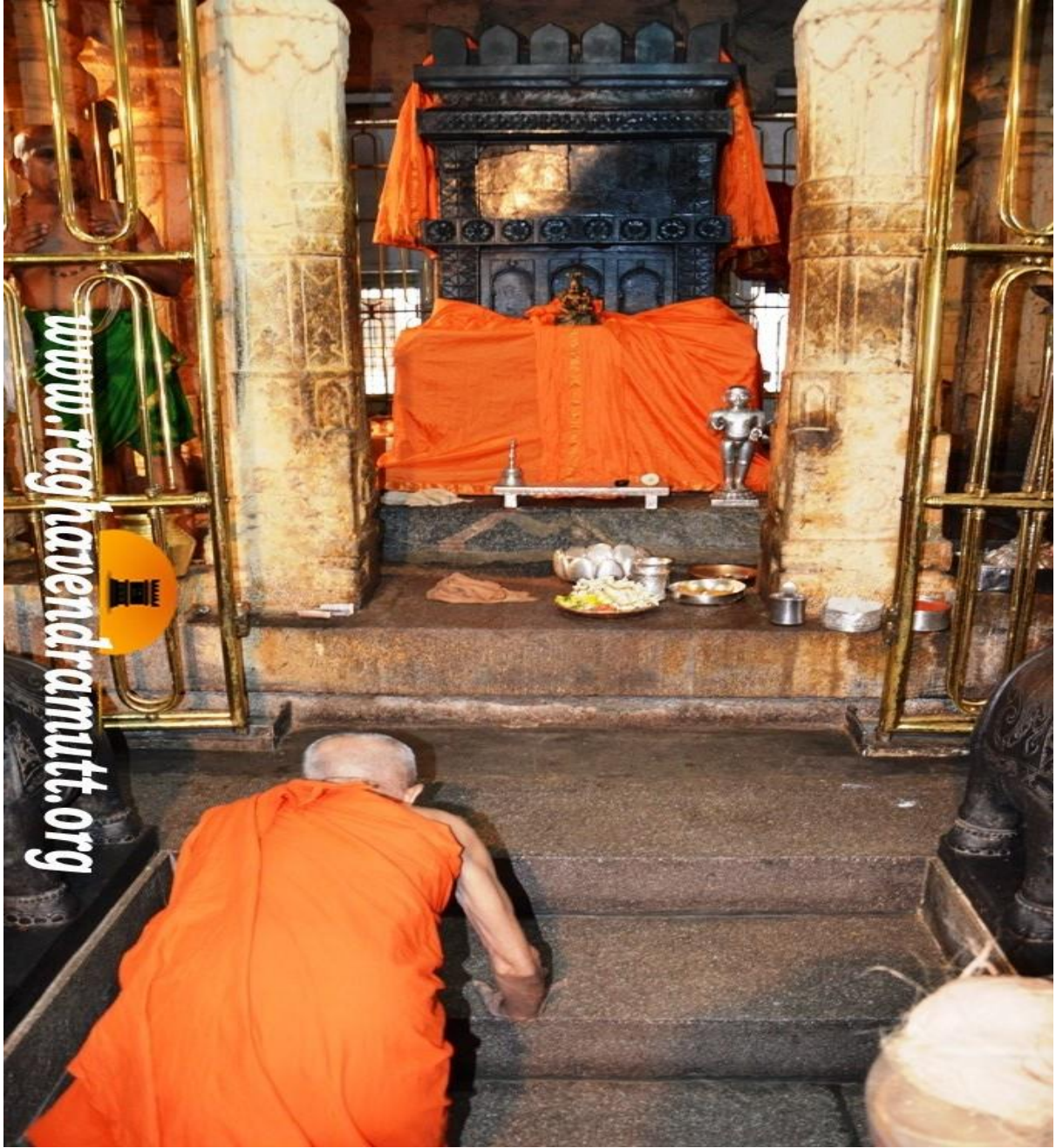
Namah!

ಓಂ! ಶ್ರೀರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಾಯ ನಮಃ

Verily a Divine Royal lineage all through...

- Shankukarna (Vishnu Parivaara Devata)
- Prahlada (Chakravarthi/Emperor)
- Bahlika (Raaja/Kuru King)
- Vyaasaraayaru (VyasaRajaru) followed by,
- RaghavendraSwamy [RajaAdhiraaja Guru Saarvabhousma]

Several DaasaSreshtas including Sri VijayaDasaru have worshipped Sri Guru Raayaru. There is no exception that people from all walks of life including Yatis worship Sri Guru Raayaru and visit Mantralayam to have darshan of Guru Sri RaaghavendraRu.



## **Pattabhishekotsava**

Phalguna Sukla Dwiteeya, the auspicious day,  
the sacred name, powerful Tharaka mantra,  
RaAgHavendra\_took birth in the year 1621.

the sacred day, Mantralaya Guru Sarvabhoma,  
Rajaadhiraaja Guru

Sri RaghavendraSwamy (GuruRayaru) took Sanyasa deeksha, ascended the throne of VedantaSamrajya founded by Sri MadhvacharyaRu.

It was in the year 1621 A.D. of Durmathi Naama Samvatsara, Phalguna Sukla Dwhiteeya, Sri Venkatanathacharya (Poorvasrama naama of Sri Raaghavendra Swamy) took Sanyasa Deeksha from his Guru Sri SudheendraTheertharu.

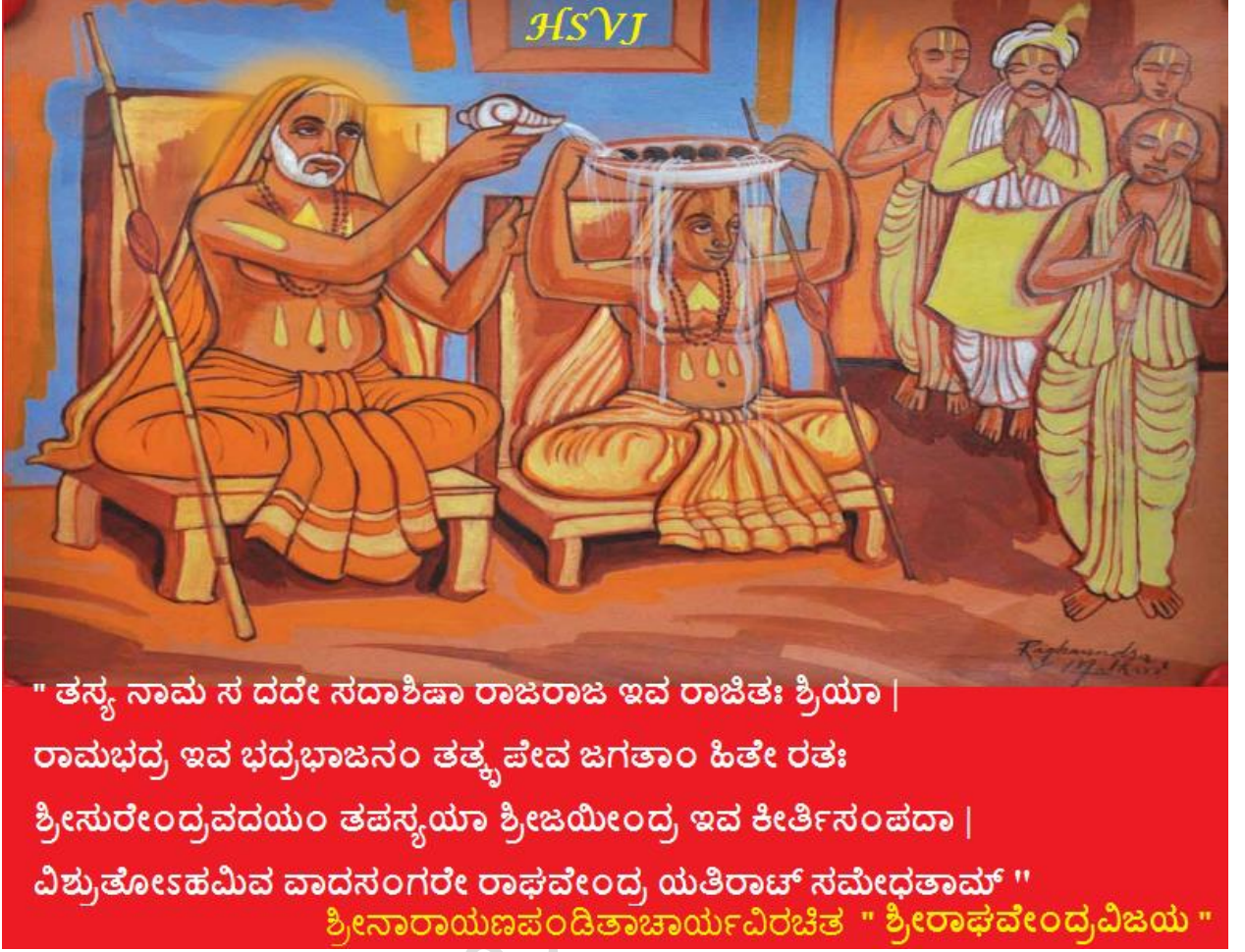


Sri RaghavendraSwamy took his Sanyasa Deeksha at Tanjavur (Tanjore) in Tamilnadu and was honoured by the King of Tanjavur Sri RaghunathaBhoopaala.

At the place [Vadavar (Vadavattangarai) near Tanjavur in Tamil Nadu] where Sri GuruRaayaru (Venkatanatha) took Sanyasa Deeksha, a Brundavana has come up with a unique significance which is revered as SarpaPeetaBrundavana.



Sri GuruRaayaru was admired by his Guru Sri SudheendraTheertharu that, Raaghavendra was like Lord SriRamachandra in wishing the world all well with the grace of Lord Sri Rama.



On that occassion after SHRI SUDHEENDRA TEERTHARU completed the pattabhisheka of RAYARU, the king of Tanjavur, RAGHUNATHA NAYAKA had organized a Cultural bonanza for his subjects.

Inaugurating the function, he had composed a poem extempo (ashukavana) – (Sangraha)

का वा विष्णु हृदब्जगा कुरुपतेर्मित्रम् च किम् तद्वद ।,

को वर्षत्यमलम् जलम् कलियुगे को वाञ्छितेष्ठप्रदः ।

अर्थ्यम् किम् विधनैः युयुत्सुरथ को वा ब्रम्हपत्नीशुभा ।

पूज्यः कोत्तर प्राथमाक्षरयुतश्रीमध्वपीठाधिपः ॥

का वा विश्णु हृदब्जगा

Who is residing in the hrudaya kamala of vishNu?

Ans: "shri" rama

कुरुपतेर्मित्रम् च किम् तद्वद

Who was the friend of Duryodhana?

Ans: "rA"dhEya

को वर्षत्यमलम् जलम्

What will discharge pure water"

Ans: "gha"nam [Cloud]

कलियुगे को वाञ्छितेष्टप्रदः

In Kaliyuga who grants the desires?

Ans: "vEn"katesha

अर्थ्यम् किम् विधनैः

What is needed by one in poverty?

Ans: "dra"viNam [Wealth]

युयुत्सुरथ

What was the name of chariot of yuyutsu

Ans: "yO"ddhA

को वा ब्रम्हपत्नीशुभा

What is the name of Bramha's wife?

Ans: "gi"rvANi

पूज्यः कोत्तर प्राथमाक्षरयुतश्रीमध्वपीठाधिपः

Pick the first letters from the answers to the above questions to know who is the peethAdhipati of madhwa sAmrAjya

Shri+rA+gha+vEn+dra+yO+gi

shri rAghavEndra yOgi

ये नित्यम् गुरुराघवेन्द्र चरणांभोजम् भजेत्यादरा

तत् कारुण्यभरेण सर्वसुकलपारीणताम् मंगलम् ।

वादे वैरिसुधीजयम् शृतिमतस्योत्कर्षणे धिष्णताम्

मोदन्ते भुवने सुकीर्तिलसितास्तेवाप्तकाम धृवम् ॥

ಯೇ ನಿತ್ಯಮ್ ಗುರುರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರ ಚರಣಾಂಭೋಜಮ್

ಭಜೇತ್ಯಾದರಾ

ತತ್ ಕಾರುಣ್ಯಭರೇಣ ಸರ್ವಸುಕಲಪಾರೀಣತಾಮ್ ಮಂಗಲಮ್ |

ವಾದೇ ವೈರಿಸುಧೀಜಯಮ್ ಶೃತಿಮತಸ್ಯೋತ್ಕರ್ಷಣೇ ಧಿಷ್ಣತಾಮ್

ಮೋದಂತೇ ಭುವನೇ ಸುಕೀರ್ತಿಲಸಿತಾಸ್ತೇವಾಪ್ತಕಾಮ ಧೃವಮ್ ||

Those who everyday pray and contemplate with bhakti on the Lotus feet of GURU Sri RAGHAVENDRA TEERTHARU, such people by the benevolent grace of GURU RAGHAVENDRA will gain mastery on all satt shastras.

They will always be victorious in all their endeavors, they will always win over their opponents, they will gain mastery and expertise in expounding vaidika matha, they will become famous, earn lot of popularity and all their desires will be fulfilled.

This was composed by Shri nArayaNAcharya, a relative of Sri Venkatanatharu on the eve of Sri GURU RAYARU's Pattabhisheka.

What is to be noted is that this is not a charama shloka kind of verse but one which was composed on the day

of Sri RAYARU's pattabhisheka. So, for Sri NarayaNacharyaru to talk with such conviction on swarupa of Sri Rayaru means, his power to grace his bhaktas/followers/ dependents was established even before Sri Venkatanatharu became a Paramahamsa yati. (sangraha)

ರಾ ಎನ್ನೆ ರಾಶಿದೋಷಗಳೆಲ್ಲ ದಹಿಸುವ  
ಘ ಎನ್ನೆ ಘನಜ್ಞಾನಭಕುತಿಯೀವ  
ವೇಂ ಎನ್ನೆ ವೇಗದಿ ಜನನಮರಣ ದೂರ  
ದ್ರ ಎನ್ನೆ ದ್ರವಿಣಾರ್ಥ ಶ್ರುತಿಪಾದ್ಯನ ಕಾಂಬ

**Ra** enne raasi doshagala dahisuva (burn heaps of our faults);

**Gha** enne Ghana Gnaana bhakutiyeeva (grant immense devotion filled with knowledge and wisdom);

**Ven** enne vegadi janana marana doora (helps in speedy liberation from the cycle of births and deaths);

**Dra** enne dravinatha shruti padyana kaamba (blessed with a vision of Lord Sri Hari);

(Thus said, Sri **GopalaDasaru** a prominent Saint from Haridasa tradition)

Sri **JagannathaDasaru** an ardent devotee of Sri Guru Raayaru, in his composition; Sri Raaghavendra Ashtaakshara Stothra extolled the significance of each letter as follows...

**Ra** relieves one from all the diseases (roga);

**Gha** enhances longevity, glory and strength of the person;

**Va** will result in gain of worldly riches;

**Dra** will drive away the sins of the person chanting;

**Ya** one will not be troubled by Yama-Dharmaraja;

**Na** one will be bestowed with higher positions; and chanting of

**Ma** one will be blessed with riches equaling that of Mahendra;

Sri GuruRaayaru (Sri Venkatanathacharya) was born & also took sanyasa deeksha, became RAAGHAVENDRA in the sacred lunar month PHALGUNA maasa befitting to the name Phalguna (PHALA + GUNA); +

Phala means merits and Guna means qualities and Sri GuruRaayaru is a highly auspicious Saint who is full of meritorious qualities. Befitting to its etymology, Sri Guru RaAyaru born in the sacred month Phalguna maasa is > KalpaVruksha KaamaDhenu.

Since then & even today there is no looking back; the name "RAGHAVENDRA" went on to become very popular by heaps & bounds like a Tharakamanthra. Very few names in the history have become popular,

everlasting and match up to the expectations of their given names.

One such name in the recent spiritual history of Hindu religion which is very popular, powerful, mesmerizing, considered as a remedy, a healer, a consolation, which people will be longing to recite is RAAGHAVENDRA, that of Mantralaya Sri RaghavendraSwamy undoubtedly the most acclaimed Saint. What a beautiful culmination of divinity, spirituality, piousness, compassion added with merits in the name "RaAgHavEndra" who has physically lived and spiritually living up to its reputation.

Salutations to Sri SudheendraTheertharu who presented to the world (through Bhagawad prerana) a divine gift in the form of auspicious "RaAgHavEndra".

Did U know? - RAAGHAVENDRA is one of the names of Lord SriRaAma (Sri RaAmaDwaAdasaNaAmaStothram - BrahmandaPurana)

well within the ambit of Dvaitasiddhantha  
RAGHAVENDRA is a unique & matchless heritage.

### **Raayaru Aaraadhana (Brundavana Pravesha)**

*What is the uniqueness of Moola Brundavana of Sri Raghavendra Swamy and Why did Sri Guru Raayaru choose Mantralayam as the spot for his Brundavana (abode)?*

Sri Guru Raayaru took his Diwan Venkanna to a place called Maadhavaram (near Mantralayam) and identified

a rock stone on which Lord Sri Rama sat during his search travel for Goddess SitaDevi in Tretha Yuga.

Sri Rayaru wanted his Brundavana to be built with the stone of that particular rock that was sanctified by Lord Sri Rama's touch (sparsha).

Lord Sri Ramachandra's sojourn at Madhavaram (near Mantralayam) during his Vanavaasa; the stone on which Lord Sri Raama rested became the fort of Sri GuruRaayara Moola Brundavana on the banks of TungaBhadra;

### **Uniqueness of Moola Brundavana**

Sri Raaghavendra Swamy was in search of an appropriate spot at Manchali (Mantralayam) to make it as his abode (Brundavana).

On one such occasions, he asked his Diwaan Venkanna (a great devotee of Sri Raayaru) to dig at a particular spot near Goddess Manchalamma temple where a Homakunda (sacrificial fire place) was found.

Sri Raayaru told Venkanna that the spot was the place where he (as Prahlada Rayaru) had performed a large scale Yagna in Krutha Yuga.

And also that was the spot where, in Dwaapara Yuga Arjuna (Mahabharatha fame) during his Jaitra Yatra (for performing Raajasuuya Yaaga by Dharma Raja) could not defeat the local king Anusalva as his chariot was standing on that pot (Homa Kunda).

Of course on Lord Sri Krishna's advice Arjuna could defeat him when he moved a little away from that spot.

Such was the significance and sanctity of the spot that Sri Raayaru could identify it with his divine powers.



Accordingly, Sri Raayaru chose this spot at Mantralayam for his Brindavana pravesa where Moola Brundavana was built that we all see, have darshan and worship on the banks of the holy river Tungabhadra.

On the set date (11th August 1671 AD), Sri Raayaru went and sat on the preselected spot as said above and his Brindavana was built with the rock that was brought from Maadhavaram as per Sri Raayaru's directions.

Inside Brindavana Sri Rayaru was fully covered with hundreds of Sri Vishnu Salagramas apart from

Mruttika. Thus the Moola Brindavana of Sri Raaghavendra Swamy came into existence that was, sanctified with Sri Raayaru himself sitting inside on a sacred and celestial spot, filled with all the power of Divinity, rightly referred to as Mantralayam; the abode of RajaAdhiRaAja Guru Saarvabhousma Sri Raaghavendra Swamy;



ರಂಗೋತ್ತುಂಗತರಂಗಮಂಗಳಕರಶ್ರೀತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾತಟ  
ಪ್ರತ್ಯಸ್ಥದ್ವಿಜಪುಂಗವಾಲಯಲಸನ್ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯಾಖ್ಯೇ ಪುರೇ |  
ನವ್ಯೇಂದ್ರೋಪಲನೀಲಭವ್ಯಕರಸದ್ಭೃಂದಾವನಾಂತರ್ಗತಃ

ಶ್ರೀಮತ್ಸದ್ಗುರುರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಯತಿರಾಟ್ ಕುರ್ಯಾದ್ಭವಂ ಮಂಗಲಂ

ರಂಗೋತ್ತುಂಗತರಂಗಮಂಗಲಕರಶ್ರೀತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾತಟ  
ಪ್ರತ್ಯಸ್ಥದ್ವಿಜಪುಂಗವಾಲಯಲಸನ್ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯಾಖ್ಯೆ ಪುರೇ |  
ನವ್ಯೇಂದ್ರೋಪಲನೀಲಭವ್ಯಕರಸದ್ಭಂದಾವನಾಂತರ್ಗತಃ  
ಶ್ರೀಮತ್ಸದ್ಗುರುರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಯತಿರಾಟ್ ಕುರ್ಯಾದ್ಭುವಂ ಮಂಗಲಂ



## साक्षी ह्यास्योत्र हि (ಸಾಕ್ಷೀ ಹಯಾಸ್ಯೋತ್ರ ಹಿ)

Appanacharya was Rayaru's beloved disciple. Most of the sanskrit hymns that we chant today in honor of Raayaru – Raghavendra stotra, Mangalashtaka, dandaka etc – are his compositions.

On the day Rayaru was entering the Brindavana, he was on the other side of the Tungabhadra river. Since the river was in full spate he could not come back in time. As he ran towards ManchAle (Mantralayam) his mind was filled with thoughts of his beloved guru and he instantaneously composed the famous Raghavendra stotra (**Sri pUrNabOdha guru tIrtha payobdhi pAra ...**).

When he reached the river it was in full spate but he did not care and rushed headlong. The power of his devotion was so great that the river parted for him and he reached Manchale (Mantralayam) quickly. But even that was too late. Guru Rayaru had entered Brundavana by that time.

Just as he came in front of the Brindavana, the last slab had been laid and his beloved guru had vanished from his sight forever. Tears started to gush from his eyes and his voice choked. The stotra had reached its final stanza "**kirtir digvijita vibhutiratula..**" but he could not continue further. Suddenly, a voice rang out from the Brindavana "**sAkshi haya syOtra hI**" (meaning that Lord Hayagreeva is the witness to the statements

made by Appanacharya in his stotra, and that He would make them all come true).

Even today, anybody reciting this stotra with full faith and devotion gets all the grace of Rayaru.

साक्षी हयास्योत्र हि were the golden words that came out from the voice of Guru Sri Raghavendra that testifies the glory & merits of Sri GuruRayaru & His Stotra **SriPoornabhoda** with none other than Lord SriHari in the form of **Hayagreeva** as a witness.

What are the merits of **SriPoornabhodha** stothra...

यो भक्त्या गुरुराघवेन्द्र चरणद्वंद्वं स्मरन् यः पठेत् ।  
स्तोत्रं दिव्यमिदं सदा न हि भवेत् स्यासुखं किंचन ॥  
किंत्विष्टार्थसमृद्धिरेव कमलानाथप्रसादोदयात् ।  
कीर्तिर्दिग्विदिता विभूतिस्तुला साक्षी हयास्योत्र हि ॥

Above slokas from Sri Raghavendra Stothra composed by Sri Appanacharyaru spell out the merits that,

whoever with all sincerity, devotion, faith and humility surrender and focus at the lotus feet of Guru **Raaghavendra** and recite this sacred stotra, for such....

- will not suffer from any sorrow,
- will get all his desires fulfilled,
- his fame will spread in all directions;
- will have unparalleled prosperity (**Athula Vibhooti**);

- with the grace of the Supreme God **LaksmiNarayana** (KamalaPathi) and
- witness for this is none other than Lord **HayaGreeva**;

One will be bestowed with fulfillment of **PurushaARtha** and blessed with permanent auspiciousness by the most benevolent and compassionate **GuruRaayaru** when we worship Him and have reverence; devotion; faith; obeisance and gratitude.

Focal point/spot light of the sacred Sri **RaaghvendraStothra** authored by Sri **Appannaachaarya** falls on the three words...

- 1) Om! Sri RaAghavendraaya Namaha;
- 2) Vibhoothirathulaa;
- 3) Saakshii Hayaa.Syothra Hi;

If Raghavendra Stotra spells out mostly the merits of worshiping Sri GuruRayaru, Sri Raghavendra Mangalashtaka describes mostly the glory & attributes of GuruRaayaru. Both composed by Sri Appannacharya are gems that came out from his desk, a great service to devout society.

ದುವಾರ್ದಿಧ್ವಾಂತರವಯೇ ವೈಷ್ಣವೇಂದೀವರೇಂದವೇ |  
ಶ್ರೀರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಗುರವೇ ನಮೋಽತ್ಯಂತದಯಾಲವೇ ||

ದ್ವಾರ್ದಿಧ್ವಾಂತರವಯೇ ವೈಷ್ಣವೇಂದೀವರೇಂದವೇ |  
ಶ್ರೀರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಗುರವೇ ನಮೋಽತ್ಯಂತದಯಾಲವೇ ||

This sloka is **charama** sloka on Sri Guru **RaAghavendra** Theertharu composed by His disciple and successor Sri **YogeEndraTheertharu**;

Meaning...

like Sun dispels the darkness,  
Sri **GuruRaAyaru** destroys/dispels the ignorance,  
wrong tenets; doctrines/vipareeta jnaana born out of  
negative tendencies, and is like Moon in granting boons  
to the devotees of Lord Vishnu who believe in Hari-  
Sarvottamatva; My obeisance and salutations to the  
utmost compassionate, kind and merciful Guru  
Sri **Raaghavendra**.

Sri GuruRaayara Aaraadhana is unique & it is a  
Utsava - Do yatha-shakti GuruRaayara SEva  
during this parvakaala.

Unlike normal Aaraadhana, Sri Raayaru aaradhana is a  
Mahotsava that will be held as per Pancharathra. It  
starts with...

- dhwajarohana
- ankuraropana
- gau pooja
- dhaanya pooja
- shakotsava and
- including...
- Vahanotsava,
- regular Vissha Sevas to Guru Raayaru,
- Alankara Bramhana Seva,

- Jnyaana Yagna and concludes with
- Maha Rathotsava
- Sarva Samarpanotsava

Sri Raayaru related parvadinās viz...

- Vardhantotsava
- Pattabhishekotsava
- Aaraadhanotsava

are all Utsavas that speaks volumes of Sri Guru Rayaru's glory, vaibhava, who is verily from a divine, celestial and royal lineage, Daivaamsha sambootha, a Devatha from Sathyaloka.

Does it mean Rayaru to be worshipped only during Aaraadhana days? Definitely not. It is only an ignorance to think like that. Sri AppannaAcharyaru is hinting us, how & when to worship Sri GuruRaayaru and emphasizing on the word '**SadaA**' that means,

Sri GuruRaayaru to be worshipped always and not to be restricted to only during Aaraadhana days, or Thursdays or on the day of PushyaArka Yoga. His dhyana/remembrance/aaraadhana/worship should be **niranthara....**

- every day,
- every hour,
- every minute,
- every second and in
- every situation.
- Sarvakaala Sarva-Avastha...

ಯದ್ಬೃಂದಾವನಸತ್ಪ್ರದಕ್ಷಿಣನಮಸ್ಕಾರಾಭಿಷೇಕಸ್ತುತಿ  
ಧ್ಯಾನಾರಾಧನ ಮೃದ್ವಿಲೇಪನಮುಖಾನೇಕೋಪಚಾರಾನ್ ಸದಾ |  
ಕಾರಂಕಾರಮಭಿಪ್ರಯಾಂತಿ ಚತುರೋ ಲೋಕಾಃ ಪುಮರ್ಥಾನ್ ಸದಾ  
ಶ್ರೀಮತ್ಸದ್ಗುರೂರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಯತಿರಾಟ್ ಕುರ್ಯಾದ್ಧ್ರುವಂ ಮಂಗಲಂ ||  
ಯದ್ಭೃಂದಾವನಸತ್ಪ್ರದಕ್ಷಿಣನಮಸ್ಕಾರಾಭಿಷೇಕಸ್ತುತಿ  
ಧ್ಯಾನಾರಾಧನ ಮೃದ್ವಿಲೇಪನಮುಖಾನೇಕೋಪಚಾರಾನ್ ಸದಾ |  
ಕಾರಂಕಾರಮಭಿಪ್ರಯಾಂತಿ ಚತುರೋ ಲೋಕಾಃ ಪುಮರ್ಥಾನ್ ಸದಾ  
ಶ್ರೀಮತ್ಸದ್ಗುರೂರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಯತಿರಾಟ್ ಕುರ್ಯಾದ್ಧ್ರುವಂ ಮಂಗಲಂ ||

How?

- Brindavana Pradakshina
- Namaskaara,
- Stuti - Parayana - dhyaAna of Sri Raghavendra;
- Mruttika sevana - lepana;
- Aaradhana - Utsava;(performing, participating, contributing, doing seva, services etc.

Those who with all sincerity, devotion, faith and humility perform the services mentioned, will no doubt achieve Chaturvidha PurushaArthas with firm and long lasting prosperity blessed by the ever auspicious and compassionate Guru Sri RaAghavendra, RajaAdhiraja Guru SaArvabhousma Sri RaAgHavendra Swamy the king of ascetics, an epitome of auspicious attributes.

Spreading the attributes (Gunastavana), glory, significance and merits of Sri GuruRayaru is also Rayaru SEva. Please do it Yatha-shakti.

Divinity, auspiciousness, merits of **RAGHAVENDRA**

is enormous; one can feel it rather experience it with His worship, aaraadhana, singing His glory, gunastavana.

Whether GuruRaayaru (Sri Raaghavendra Swamy) is inside or outside the Brundavana it doesn't make any difference; there will be no dearth of his glory and merits.

To commemorate these sacred events especially Sri Raayara Aaraadhana, special celebrations are held in a grand manner across the country at all temples of Sri Raaghavendra Swamy more particularly at Mantralayam the abode of Guru Sri Raaghavendra.

On this sacred occasion of Sri Raayara Aaraadhana it is our ardent duty and also our boon to worship him, offer our obeisance and salutations to this great spiritual Guru Sri Raayaru and seek his blessings.

Blessed are those who worship and sing the glory of Sri Raghavendra Swamy.

1. Mantralayam (the abode of Sri Guru Raaghavendra);
2. Raayara Brindavana Darshana;
3. Raayara Seva/Aaraadhana;
4. Raayara Paadodaka;
5. Raayara Smarane/Guna Stavana;
6. Raayara Abhisheka; Archana;

7. Raayara Brindavana Pradakshina/Namaskaara;
8. Raayara Ashtakshari Manthra/Raayara Stothra;
9. Raayara Mruttika;
10. Raayara Hastodaka;
11. Raayara Phala-Mantrakshate;
12. Raayara Mahima/Leela;

are always sacred and highly meritorious; (list is only indicative not exhaustive....)

Sri Guru Raayaru should always be adored with utmost reverence; devotion; faith; obeisance and gratitude.  
He is KaliYuga KaAmadhenu – KalpAvriksha;  
His glory is everlasting;

nAhAm kArtA hAriH kArtA

Sri Krushnaarpanamasthu  
Hari Sarvottama – Vaayu Jeevottama  
Sri GuruRaajo Vijayate

पूज्याय राघवेन्द्राय सत्यधर्मरताय च ।  
भजतां कल्पवृक्षाय नमतां कामधेनवे ॥  
मूकोपि यत्प्रसादेन मुकुंद शयनायते  
राजराजायते रिक्तो राघवेन्द्रं तमाश्रये ॥  
दुर्वादिध्वांतरवये वैष्णवेदीवरेंदवे ।  
श्रीराघवेन्द्रगुरवे नमोऽत्यंतदयालवे ॥



